

Call for Papers
征稿通知

2013 Term / Wuhan
“Beijing Roundtable on Contemporary Philosophy”
2013年-武漢 “北京當代哲學國際圓桌學術研討會”

Theme / 討論主題
“Philosophical Issues Concerning Chinese Language
and Development of Contemporary Philosophy of Language”
“關於漢語的哲學問題與當代語言哲學發展”

(2012/7 draft)

Academic Organizer: International Society for Comparative Studies of Chinese and Western Philosophy (ISCWP)

學術組織方: 國際中西哲學比較研究學會

Host & Co-sponsor: Department of Philosophy & Center for Comparative Philosophy, Wuhan University, China

東道主/共同贊助方: 武漢大學哲學系及比較哲學研究中心

Co-sponsor: Center for Comparative Philosophy, San Jose State University, USA

共同贊助方: 美國加州圣荷塞州立大學比較哲學研究中心

Time: Around mid-June 2013

時間: 2013年6月中旬

Location: Wuhan University, Wuhan/China

地點: 武漢大學, 武漢/中國

Discussion language: English and/or Chinese

學術討論語言: 英文/中文

The 2013 Term of the ISCWP's "Beijing Roundtable on Contemporary Philosophy" workshop /symposium series is a two-day symposium on the theme "Philosophical Issues Concerning Chinese Language and Development of Contemporary Philosophy of Language", which will be held in Wuhan University, Wuhan, China, around mid-June 2013.

[Note: As it has been planned before, the "Beijing Roundtable" workshop series might be held in some other locations than Beijing in case relevant conditions would allow, for this effective academic-exchange/co-operation opportunity and engaging critical-discussion forum is intended to expand its coverage instead of its prospective hosts being limited to the academic institutions in one geographic area in China (though typically still in Beijing for some substantial considerations); in this situation, the label 'Beijing Roundtable' is thus rendered symbolic and still kept for its constructive emblematic use in relevant ISCWP documents, though host parties can choose their own preferred workshop titles.]

It is known that the development of philosophy of language has played its significant role in the development of contemporary philosophy; it has also made substantial contribution to the contemporary studies of Chinese and Chinese-Western comparative philosophy, not only in those directly related areas like language, mind and logic but also in other major areas like ethics. Largely

due to historical reason, reflective elaborations of relevant phenomena of natural languages in studies of philosophy of language have been typically pointed to the observation of the apparent semantic, syntactic and some other relevant phenomena of phonetic languages like English, which are supposed to be universally (at least at a deeper level) shared by all natural languages. However, in quite a few connections or cases (such as the semantic-syntactic structure of names, the way of predication, the structure of logical inference as presented in natural language, the propositional-attitude expressions, the structure of sentences, the metaphors, ...), the apparent linguistic phenomena between a phonetic language like Greek or English and an ideographic language like Chinese are distinct and reflectively interesting; their elaborations might guide or bear on our philosophical reflections on relevant issues in distinct directions or manners.

In this symposium, we will discuss: (1) on the one hand, how reflective elaboration of some features of Chinese language can bear on the development of philosophy of language and our understanding and treatment of some language-related issues of the philosophy of language; (2), on the other hand, how relevant resources in contemporary philosophy of language can contribute to our understanding and treatment of our philosophical elaboration of reflectively interesting issues concerning Chinese language. The relevant issues include but not limited to these: the issue of semantic-syntactic structure of nouns and its related ontological issues, the issue of reference, the issue of truth [concerning the relation between language, thought and objects] as presented in Chinese classics, the issue of predication, the issue of logical inference as presented in Chinese language, the issue of propositional attitudes; the issue of the nature of language, the issue of metaphors.

As the Beijing Roundtable workshop/symposium series has emphasized in-depth critical discussion on well-prepared research fruits on the target issue, submissions are expected to address the relevant issues with well-explained and clearly-presented approaches. Papers (up to 5,000 English word equivalents in English or Chinese) together with 150-250 word abstracts (in English) may be submitted electronically (MS Word file, single-spaced) by 1st May 2013 to the review team c/o Bo Mou, ISCWP coordinator for the 2013 “Beijing Roundtable” symposium, at bo.mou@sjsu.edu. [Note: for the sake of encouraging a submission that really needs sufficient words to present well-developed, carefully elaborated approach to the issue, it is allowed to be up to 5,000 words for the review/in-depth discussion purpose; but the author of the accepted submission needs to effectively present the essence of the material in no more than 20 minutes so that sufficient time (at least 20 minutes) can be reserved for critical discussion—for this purpose, some efficient means that have been effectively adopted by this workshop series will be suggested to the author-presenter.]

The accommodation of the speakers of the accepted papers during the symposium period will be covered by the symposium host party.

Any interested ISCWP members and other interested colleagues are welcome to participate in this symposium. For further information concerning its academic coordination, contact Bo Mou; for further information concerning its host organization, contact Prof. Zhaohua Chu, the Host representative, at chuzhaohua80@yahoo.com.cn.

Special Note:

The journal *Frontiers of Philosophy in China* (ISSN 1673-3436 / in English) plans to publish a special issue on the same topic; any interested authors are encouraged to submit your quality papers, whether or not you would plan to participate in the foregoing symposium.